



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **SEXUAL PREDATOR WITH LONG CRIMINAL HISTORY PLEADS GUILTY TO RECEIVING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

*Case grew out of int'l investigation that has resulted in more than 1,200 arrests worldwide*

ROANOKE, VA — United States Attorney John L. Brownlee and Special Agent-In-Charge for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Allan Doody announced today that Dennis Mills, age 47, of Catawba, Virginia, pled guilty to receiving child pornography through the U.S. Mail. Mills is a convicted sexual predator.

According to testimony by ICE Special Agent Robert Abrams, on February 20, 2003, Mills purchased access to a website that provided child pornography. In June of 2003, agents executed a search warrant of U.S. based Internet servers. Mills' name was found as a subscriber to the child pornography website. A mail sting was executed, sending hundreds of people in Virginia catalogues where they could purchase pornography, including child pornography through a fictitious company called "4-Reel Videos."

One catalogue was mailed to Mills on September 7, 2004. Agents received an order from Mills on September 14, 2004 for videos involving preteen boys and young boys. When a search warrant was executed on his home in Catawba, agents found hundreds of images of child pornography on Mills computer, and a list of several pornography websites.

"Those who believe they can hide behind the anonymity of cyberspace are mistaken," said Allan Doody, Special Agent-In-Charge for ICE investigations in Washington, D.C. "Working with our law enforcement partners here in the U.S. and overseas, we are systematically identifying the individuals who trade in these images of abuse and bringing them to justice."

Mills has three prior convictions for aggravated sexual battery to minors. Mills victimized two boys through the Big Brothers program, as well as his stepson. As a result of these convictions, Mills faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years in prison, and a maximum of 40 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

"The only way to deal with repeat offenders like Mr. Mills is to put them in jail," said United States Attorney John Brownlee. "We will not allow him to continue to victimize our children."

ICE and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service investigated the case. It grew out of a massive international investigation into several companies in the U.S. and Minsk, Belarus that operated and processed payments for a number of child pornography websites. Agents targeted the companies and the individuals who operated the websites and processed payments, as well as the website subscribers. To date, more than 1,200 individuals have been arrested worldwide as a part of that investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney C. Patrick Hogeboom prosecuted the case.

Judge James C. Turk heard the plea.

No sentencing date has been set.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*